

REMARKS

In light of the above amendments and remarks to follow, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-13 are pending in this application. New claims 10-13 are presented.

Claim 5 was objected to for use of the term "informations." Applicant has changed this term to "information" in claim 5 (and in several other claims). Accordingly, Applicant believes this objection has been overcome.

Claims 1-2 and 5-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kojima (U.S. Patent 6,944,801). In the present invention, a plurality of configuration information stored in a plurality of registers is selectively switched by a switching means to configure a delay means. (Figure 1; elements 145, 146, and 142) A delay element array in the delay means is configured based on the configuration information. (Specification paragraph 14) This feature of the present invention allows the characteristics of the delay means to be adjusted to the same characteristics as those of the critical path of the target circuit. This feature also means a single delay signal generation circuit can be used; rather than a plurality of circuits for combining delay characteristics as disclosed in the prior art. Whereas, Kojima is not concerned with the critical path of the target circuit as required in the present claims. In fact, Kojima discloses the same plurality of delay circuits as the prior art overcome by the present invention. Moreover, Kojima discloses delaying individual data lines, whereas the present invention monitors the clock signal

to control the power supply voltage. Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Kojima fails to anticipate the present invention and the rejected claims should now be allowed.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's acknowledgment that claims 3-4 and 7-9 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. However, for the reasons discussed above, Applicant has decided not to amend these claims at this time.

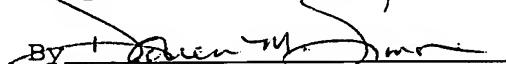
As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he/she telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

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Respectfully submitted,

By   
Darren M. Simon

Registration No.: 47,946  
LERNER, DAVID, LITTBENBERG,  
KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK, LLP  
600 South Avenue West  
Westfield, New Jersey 07090  
(908) 654-5000  
Attorney for Applicant